

Message Text

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46

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 IO-11 ISO-00 EURE-00 AID-05 CAB-02

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 INR-07 NSAE-00

FAA-00 PM-04 H-02 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01 OMB-01 /092 W

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P R 221837Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8592

INFO AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

US MISSION GENEVA 816

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY CAPETOWN

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POUCHED INFO ALL CONSULATES IN CANADA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EAID, EAIR, CA

SUBJ: PACIFIC WESTERN OPERATIONS IN ANGOLA

REF: OTTAWA 107 (NOTAL)

1. AT JANUARY 20 OTTAWA RECEPTION, TCO HAD OPPORTUNITY

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DISCUSS BRIEFLY ANGOLAN OPERATIONS WITH HIM ROBBINS,

PACIFIC WESTERN AIRLINES (PWA) VICE-PRESIDENT OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS. ROBBINS IMMEDIATELY PERCEIVED IMPORTANCE OF USG BING FULLY INFORMED AND ARRANGED CONFERENCE CALL JANUARY 21 WITH JACK MOUL, PWA VICE-PRESIDENT FOR CONTRACT AND CHARTER OPERATIONS, AND CAPTAIN CLAIR AYER, PWA SENIOR CAPTAIN BASED IN EDMONTON, WHO HAS RECENTLY RETURNED FROM AFRICA.

2. ACCORDING TO MOUL AND AYER, PWA SINCE OCTOBER HAS HAD CONTRACT WITH THE DIAMANG CORP. TO HAUL FOOD AND COMPANY SUPPLIES TO DUNDO (ANGOLA). ONE C-130 AIRCRAFT IS EMPLOYED. THE CREW MEMBERS ALL HAVE VISAS ISSUED BY AN MPLA GROUP IN LISBON (SIC).

3. FLIGHTS HAVE AVERAGED ONE TRIP PER DAY FROM CHILEKA, NORTH OF BLANTYRE, MALAWI, AND CARGO HAS BEEN ESSENTIALLY FOODSTUFFS, I.E., WHITE CASSAVA FLOUR AND SALTED CODFISH OBTAINED BY DIAMANG FROM WHEREVER STOCKS COULD BE OBTAINED. THERE HAVE BEEN OCCASIONAL FLIGHTS FROM FRANCISTOWN (BOTSWANA) AND LUANDA (ANGOLA), LARGELY FUEL FOR COMPANY OPERATIONS. IT IS PLANNED TO ADD CANNED GOODS TO THE CARGO IN THE NEAR FUTURE. PWA HAS A LOAD MASTER WHO FLIES WITH THE AIRCRAFT AND HEADQUARTERS IS CONVINCED THAT HIS SUPERVISION IS ADEQUATE TO ASSURE THAT ONLY PROPERLY MANIFESTED GOODS ARE CARRIED.

4. DUNDO AREA IS UNDER CONTROL OF THE MPLA AND THERE HAS BEEN NO RECENT MILITARY ACTIVITY THERE. PWA CAPTAIN'S ORDERS ARE TO CEASE OPERATIONS AT THE FIRST SIGN OF TROUBLE. A CONTRACT COVERING THE OPERATION WAS SIGNED IN OCTOBER FOR THREE MONTHS AND HAS JUST BEEN RENEWED TO FEBRUARY 26. AS AN INDICATION OF THE RELATIVE TRANQUILITY OF THE AREA, MOUL MENTIONED THAT PWS'S PREMIUM FOR WAR RISK INSURANCE WRITTEN BY LLOYDS OF LONDON HAD BEEN DECREASED IN THE LAST MONTH FROM \$25,000 PER MONTH BY ABOUT 50 PERCENT.

5. TO FACILITATE CARGO HANDLING, PWA HAS OBTAINED TWO STANDARD (EIGHT BY EIGHT BY TWENTY) MARINE CONTAINERS FROM US CARRIER SEA-LNAD. THESE CONTAINERS, WHICH WILL FIT IN C-130, ARE NOT YET LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IN USE AND AYER WAS NOT SURE WHETHER THEY WERE PRESENTLY BASED AT LUANDA, FRANCISTOWN OR CHILEKA.

6. ACCORDING TO THESE PWA OFFICIALS, DIAMANG, IN ADDITION TO SUPPLYING ITS OWN EMPLOYEES, IS ALSO FEEDING THE 150,000 PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN THE AREA.

7. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT IF FURTHER INFORMATION IS

DESIRED FROM PWA HEADQUARTERS, OTTAWA TCO SHOULD BE
ONLY POINT OF CONTACT.
JOHNSON

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